[For information on the taxation system in Kashmir as administered from Jammu, see 1: Lawrence, AV4 Kashmiri, category 116, Chapters XVII and XVIII, pp. 399-453. -- Analyst]

4: Durand G-9 (1888-92) 1900 AVI Kashmir A√1

CHAPTER IX

ADMINISTRATION AND WAR

646 Our first years in Gilgit passed in peace and hard
701 work, tempered by "excursions and alarms," born of
643 the wild and ever-varying plots and intrigues indulged in by my native friends on all sides.

My position presented some of the curious anomalies to which the Indian Administrator on the frontier is accustomed. I was the representative of the British Government on the frontier, and the external relations with the neighbouring States were under my control. But the rule within the Gilgit border was in the hands of the Kashmir Governor, while the command of the forces rested with the Kashmiri General, with the proviso that no important move of troops should be undertaken without my sanction. It was a difficult position, for every one recognised that, in addition to my own responsibilities, I was really answerable for the proper government and progress of the Gilgit district, and for the discipline and control of the troops.

647 The difficulty was solved by the formation of an unrecognised Committee of Public Safety composed of the Governor, the General, and myself. We met two

4c Durand G-3 (1888-92) 1900 AVI Kashmir AV I

447 or three times a week at my house and discussed our various schemes, the necessary steps for which were invariably carried out in the name of the Kashmir Durbar and by order of its own officers. Even so the task set one was no easy one—a reformer's rarely is, but patience and courtesy go a long way in the east. Personally my Kashmiri colleagues and I were very good friends, and in the end what was required was
153 generally carried through. For the first few months we turned our attention mainly to the re-modelling of the Forts occupied by the troops, with the object of replacing the foul huts in them by proper barracks, and of building suitable granaries and stores. Much time and labour were also spent in improving the irrigation channels in the Gilgit district, on which the food supply of the inhabitants and the troops depended. The whole subject of the grain and other revenue was also gone into, and the question of the improvement of the local communications exhaustively examined.

641 Christmas, 1889, saw the beginning of a series of gatherings of the neighbouring native chiefs, and of their leading men, at Gilgit. I held a formal Durbar, and had as much trouble over the precedence of the different chiefs as might have been expected in India had all the nobles of Hyderabad, Central India, and Rajputana met at once. I took advantage of the opportunity to make a speech, informing all of the intention of Government that the British Agency should be permanent. The doubts on this point, carefully kept alive by interested people, whose power was slipping from their hands, were the main cause of all my
000 initial difficulties. After the Durbar we had a week of sports of all kinds, during which, to our satisfac-

657 drinking water in the *kandi illaqa* ; and the reconstruction of the bridge over the Tawi at Jammu. The concessions then announced have materialized, and the beneficent activities of the Government have increased year after year.

* * * * * * *

641 During His present Highness' term of office as
647 Senior Member of the then State Council, His late Highness had issued orders to provide for (1) employment of State-subjects only to all ordinary vacancies, and (2) grant of lands for house building and other purposes to State-subjects only ; and a Committee of official and non-official members had been appointed to suggest a definition of the term State-subject for the purpose of these orders. The definition proposed by the Committee was accepted by His Highness, and it protects the children of the soil in the matter of recruitment to Government services and several other privileges against outsiders.

658 A committee had been appointed in 1923 to consider the future requirements of the different departments in technical qualifications and experience, and make proposals for grant of scholarships for training to qualified State-subjects. This committee was reconstituted in 1927 as the Scholarship Selection Board. In recent years, thirty qualified State-subjects selected by the Board have received training in several institutions in Europe and America and British India in Civil Engineering, Architecture and Town Planning, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Pharmaceutics, Horticulture, Sericulture, Forestry, Printing, Law and Public administration ; and most of them are now in Government service. Training, academic and technical, has also been given in Indian institutions to over 275 State-subjects. Lump sum provision has been made in the budget since 1937-38 for grant of loans to persons desirous of prosecuting advanced studies or undergoing advanced or special training in India or abroad and out of this provision, loans of over Rs. 70,000 have been granted so far to a number of State-subjects for training in Forestry, Chemistry, Mathematics, Medicine, Public Health etc., in England and for Accounts, Law and Post-graduate studies in India.

His Highness also impressed upon the Heads of

His Highness also impressed upon the Heads of 563
Departments the imperative need of providing a fair 647
representation in Government services to communities not adequately represented therein, and since his accession this policy has been adhered to. In his proclamation of the 9th July, 1931, His Highness declared that while in the matter of service, prior consideration is and always shall be given to public interest, and the obligation of maintaining the efficiency of the administration at the highest possible level can never be overlooked, the policy of his Government would be to give adequate representation to all communities in the services, without giving any preponderance to any community. Following the publication of the report of the Glancy Commission referred to below, further steps have been taken to ensure a fair representation in services to the Muslims. The rules for recruitment of services recently sanctioned provide expressly that regard should be had to the securing of adequate representation to the various communities in the State. The rules relating to recruitment to the Gazetted services provide that in making recruitment in the various services, special attention should be paid to the securing of adequate representation to different communities.

There has been considerable improvement in the representation of Muslims in the services* during the last decade. In April 1943, there were 3,989 Muslim officials, including 133 Gazetted officials out of a total strength of 11,762 officials including 478 Gazetted officials in the superior service. This may be compared with the condition in April 1932, when there were 2,052 Muslim officials including 55 Gazetted officials, out of a total strength of 8,683 officials including 355 Gazetted officials. In the inferior service, Muslims numbered 3,841 out of a total strength of 8,196 in April 1943 against 3,542 out of a total strength of 8,360 in April 1932. It will thus be seen that there has been an increase of 94.4 per cent. in the number of Muslims in the superor service during the last 11 years. In the Gazetted ranks, the increase nas been nearly 142 per cent. The Muslims are no doubt still in a minority in the services as a whole, but their proportion is growing every year. In April 1943 they formed 39.23

*The figures given in this paragraph are for the civil departments only.

563 per cent. of the total strength of services. What is more
647 important to note is the fact that out of the total increase of 2,915 in the strength of all services, the share of the Muslims was 2,236 or 76.7 per cent., as against 679 or 23.3 per cent., the share of other communities.

647 In the matter of Government purchases, preference is
991 given to local firms. The Department of Civil Supplies, which has been established to arrange supplies for Government Departments, maintains a list of registered local firms. Preference is also given to locally manufactured goods when available, for use by Government Departments.

• • • • • • •

563 Following the outbreak of communal trouble in the
647 State in 1931, His Highness was pleased to appoint a
923 Commission, with Mr. B. J. Glancy of the Political Department of the Government of India (now H. E. Sir B. J. Glancy, Governor of the Punjab) as President and with four non-official representatives of Hindus and Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir Provinces as members to inquire into the grievances, religious and secular, of different communities. The Committee made a number of recommendations, which His Highness was pleased to accept. The more important of these related to :—(1) religious places that had passed into the hands of the Government, (2) recruitment of different communities in Government services, and (3) grant of proprietary rights, accompanied by controlling legislation, in regard to lands of which the ownership was held by the State. As regards the first, Government ordered the restoration of the places to the community which was able to substantiate its claims to them. Regarding the second, minimum qualifications were fixed by which educationally less advanced communities could secure an adequate share in the services. Regarding the third, His Highness not only granted proprietary rights to the *zamindars*, but also waived the condition of payment of *nazarana*. This concession represented in money value an amount of over Rs. 20 lakhs. Recently, this concession has been extended to villages transferred to the State from His Highness' Private Department.

• • • • • • •

family or the management of His Highness' household; 692
(b) relations, treaties, conventions or agreements 696
between the State and His Majesty the King Emperor of India or the Government of India or with the Foreign Powers or the Government of any State in India;
(c) matters of frontier policy;
(d) organisation, discipline and control of the State Army;
(e) the provisions of the Constitution Act and the rules made thereunder.

The Praja Sabha has constituted Standing Committees (617) •
for Finance, Industries, Public Health, Agriculture, Co-operation and Education.

• • • • • • •

A High Court comprising a Chief Justice and two 692
puisne Judges was established by His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur in March 1928. The Judges of the High Court hold office during the pleasure of His Highness. In 1930, in view of the marked improvement in the judicial administration of the State, the jurisdiction exercised by Residency courts in certain categories of civil cases was ceded to the State courts. Almost all the judicial [595]
officers in the State are either barristers or graduates in law. Rules similar to those in British India govern the enlistment of pleaders and advocates in the State. Generally speaking, the civil and criminal laws of the State are similar to and modelled upon the British Indian laws. Recently, the jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature has been extended to Poonch and Chenani *Jagirs*. Altogether there are 150 civil and criminal courts in the State. The total number of legal practitioners including advocates practising in all the courts is 319.

As provided by the new Constitution Act, a Judicial Advisory Board was established to advise His Highness in regard to the disposal of judicial cases going up to him. The Board discharges the same functions in the State as are performed by the Privy Council in the case of British India. Last year, the Board consisted of three retired Judges of the High Court of Allahabad.

• • • • • • •

The 10th of September 1943 was a red letter day in the history of the administration of justice in the State.

1942 On this day, His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur was graciously pleased to grant Letters Patent to the High Court of Judicature similar to those of High Courts in British India. This gave the court a status and prestige of its own.

• • • • • • •

1947 467 185 12 July 1943, His Highness was pleased to appoint a Commission of Enquiry, under the presidentship of R. B. Ganga Nath, Chief Justice and President Praja Sabha, consisting principally of non-official members of the Praja Sabha and others representing different interests and communities to ascertain whether the existing constitution of the State had worked well and with a view to formulating a policy for the future and the evolution of an organic scheme for the administration of the State. The Commission has also been required to make recommendations to secure (1) the safety, integrity and security of the State, (2) the efficient and progressive character of the administration, (3) the uninterrupted and harmonious progress of the State with the object of drawing all the communities inhabiting its territories closer to one another in the common service of the State, (4) the development of the economic resources of the State and its people leading to a higher and healthier standard of life, (5) the increasing representation of the State-subjects in the higher offices of the State and the adoption of a policy aiming at the association of State-subjects of all denominations with the administration of the State, (6) the strict enforcement of the policy that appointments under the Government shall be reserved for the subjects of the State except where the possession of expert or technical knowledge or experience unavailable within the State, may make it essential to import outsiders for a temporary period only or except where any special reasons may justify the appointment of an outsider to an administrative post for a dennite period, and (7) the adoption of effective measures to stamp out corruption in any shape or form from all departments of the State.

The particular attention of the Commission has been drawn to a number of specific matters, mentioned below :—

(1) provision of nursing and medical facilities particularly in the rural areas;

247 (2) improvement of sanitary conditions in the towns
657 of Jammu and Srinagar;
(3) prevention of venereal diseases, specially in
185 Udhampur, Ramnagar and Ramban Tehsils;
(4) provision of water-supply in the entire *kandi* area;
(5) economic rehabilitation of the Frontier districts;
(6) the present position of State industries and their further development;
(7) grant of adequate aid to hereditary State-subjects to establish or promote industries suited to the conditions prevailing in the State territories;
(8) provision for technical, industrial and scientific education;
(9) reforms in the educational system tending to give a practical bias to education in all its stages, primary, secondary and higher, with the object of equipping the youth of the State to earn their livelihood;
(10) taking of practical steps *e. g.*, by the appointment of an Employment Board or any other suitable means to guide and help the youth of the State in securing employment or in adopting profitable careers;
(11) insuring of economic security amongst all classes of people, particularly the peasantry by developing their economic and material strength, securing a better standard of life, improving their health and by fostering co-operative effort directed to their welfare;
(12) investigation into the question of migration of labour from the State into British India and examination of the question whether from the point of view of the people such migration is profitable and deserving of encouragement or whether it is harmful calling for check;
(13) the desirability of stopping the purchase of agricultural and other lands by outsiders either directly, or indirectly through the intervention of the State-subjects;
(14) prevention of illicit traffic in women;
(15) investigation into the question whether the present marriage law is effective or whether it requires amendment;
(16) further intensification of the rural uplift movement;
(17) further measures for the more effective

647 657 185 prevention of erosion ;

(18) the development of Local Self-Government in cities, towns and the village areas ;

(19) preservation and beautification of the country side ;

(20) planned framing of the Budget and apportionment of finance for nation-building activities over a period of years ;

(21) fixing of a suitable ratio between the expenditure on Medical relief, Education and Public Works Departments.

The Commission held its inaugural meeting on the 9th August 1943, when the President read out the following message received from His Highness:—" On this the first day of the sitting of the Commission, I desire to send a personal message of goodwill and encouragement in the arduous task which lies before you. I decided to appoint this Commission and to entrust to you the duty of making a thorough enquiry into matters that affect the well-being of my subjects and of submitting to me a well-considered report containing practical suggestions for the advancement in different spheres of life of the different communities. I shall watch with keen interest the progress of your work. If you work together, not in a narrow and mutually distrustful spirit, but with the fixed resolve to serve the best interests of the State and that loyalty on which I depend, I feel confident that your labours will be fruitful, and add to the moral and material welfare of the inhabitants of this State. I charge you to apply yourselves zealously and wisely to the task that lies before you with a fixed determination to arrive at wise and practical conclusions which would redound to the credit of the State and bring us all greater happiness. Very sincerely and earnestly, I wish you god-speed."

This was followed by a speech from the President in the course of which he said that they were all beholden to His Highness the Maharaja Bahadur for his gracious message. He went on to say : " Luckily, we are working under the aegis of a sovereign to whose heart your happiness, prosperity and progress are very near ; and who, I am assured, is keenly anxious that this Commission should lead to happy results. The terms of reference, I need scarcely remind you, are very wide and they cover

practically the whole of the life of the people in different spheres. I shall make an earnest appeal to you to make a response to the command in the spirit in which it has been issued and to try for yourselves whether co-operation is not more fruitful than mere non-co-operation, when you are called upon not merely to pass resolutions. But to recommend definite proposals for the amelioration of your fellow citizens."

* * * * * * *

The status of cultivators of land, whose condition was little better than that of serfs before the introduction of Settlement of land, has been improved considerably. The maximum State share of revenue is fixed at 30 per cent. of the gross produce, and suspensions and remissions are granted from time to time. The term of a Settlement has been extended to 40 years. Long before the establishment of the Praja Sabha, His Highness had studied conditions of life in the interior of the State by extensive tours. He had also introduced an effective method of keeping in touch with the rural population through conferences of the representatives of each Tehsil in Jammu and Kashmir held annually at the headquarters of the Government. This form of consultation with popular representatives gave His Highness a more intimate knowledge of the real needs and requirements of the masses. As a result of the representations made at these conferences and the discussions that followed, attention was directed towards the improvement of means of communication in the villages, improvement of livestock, grant of cultivable land as *naulor* and provision of more facilities for education and medical relief in the villages. The Agriculturists' Relief Act was enacted, several years before the institution of the Praja Sabha, to protect the agriculturists from the extortion of money-lenders who charged high rates of interest, and was the first of a series of legislations for the protection of the agriculturists. It prescribed the maximum rates of interest and empowered the courts to examine the accounts of a loan and to fix instalments for discharging debts on the basis of the paying capacity of the debtor. Special *ailans* were issued declaring agricultural holdings, livestock, agricultural implements, seeds, etc., as non-attachable for redemption of

654 The saffron of Kashmir grown in one important locality
242 in the valley, is very famous. The Department has recently made some successful experiments in growing this saffron in Kishtwar in Jammu Province.

The Department also sends peripatetic parties of gardeners to the villages to demonstrate to the *zamindars* the operations connected with orchard laying. Demonstrations are given and the people educated regarding the control of pests. An Act for compulsory spraying of fruit plants has been promulgated. Agriculture, fruit, and flower shows are held annually at several places in the State to arouse the interest of the people in improved methods of agriculture, horticulture and floriculture.

The Department maintains poultry farms in which improved breeds are raised. Eggs and chicks are supplied to *zamindars* from these farms. His Highness' Government are a member of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and the Council has provided funds for (1) the San Jose Scale and the Woolly Aphis Research Scheme, (2) the Rice Research Scheme and (3) the Vegetable Seed Production Scheme in the State. A fruit survey scheme has also been sanctioned by the Council.

* * * * * *

657 The establishment of *panchayats*[1] in the villages of the
[47] State under the Panchayat Act has received a great fillip
623 since 1937 with the creation of a separate Department of Rural Development. To start with the Government
[451] sanctioned a lump sum grant of Rs. 40,000 for execution of improvement works. The grant was raised to Rs. 1,00,000 later. Subsequently the grant of Rs. 40,000 provided for the *kandi* water supply was transferred to this Department, raising the total to Rs. 1,40,000 in S. 1996-97. In S. 1999 the grant stood at Rs. 2,00,000. The *panchayats* do not merely decide petty cases. They are engaged in the work of rural reconstruction and are co-operating with the Government in the matter of execution of improvement schemes in rural areas. Besides providing free manual labour for construction of village roads and sinking of wells and similar other works, the *panchayats* have also made cash contributions for these public ulitity works. Villagers are also contributing towards the purchase of the community Radio sets, digging of wells,

1 [ie, village councils, usually composed of five members -- Analyst]

ment for supply of drinking water to the *kandi illaqa* of Jammu Province, and a special allotment is made in the budget for the purpose every year. Tube wells have been constructed at several places, and water supply schemes for a number of localities are under consideration. 657 312

* * * * * * *

Reference has already been made to one of the chief industries in the State, *viz.*, the Sericulture industry, which is a Government concern. The silk filature in Srinagar is the largest of its kind in the world. A special quality of raw silk has been produced in Kashmir, which can favourably compete with silk produced anywhere else. It is interesting to note that the rearing of cocoons for silk provides employment for thousands of homes in the villages, exclusive of the labour that finds employment in the factories themselves. Owing to the rise in the price of silk, sericulture has already made a good contribution to the revenue of the State. A scheme for a large expansion of the industry has been taken in hand. A five-year plan for the expansion of the factory at Jammu has already been sanctioned, and it is expected that at the end of five years, the labour employed in the sericulture operations in the factory premises and in cocoon rearing in the province as a whole will show an increase of 150 per cent. High class carpets are manufactured in Kashmir and exported to Europe and America. Owing to the war, however, this industry has suffered a set-back recently. The industry, as stated before, continues to receive a subsidy from the Government. 655 288

A Department of Industries was established in 1923 to develop and foster industries in the State. The chief among the older industries which have become established are a Match Factory, a Santonine Factory, a Tannery, a Pottery Factory and the Shri Karan Singh Woollen Mills. A Government Silk Weaving Factory has been established to produce high class silk fabrics of different kinds. It has recently been developed and expanded to four times its original size to give a further fillip to the silk weaving industry in the State. A Research and Commercial Sheep Breeding Farm with a research and commercial section has been established to develop the sheep bre[illegible]ng 647 655 288 232 654

[vii]

INTRODUCTION

659*

1. Past Censuses.—Leaving out of calculation the crude enumeration attempt of 1873 which yielded unreliable results, the first Census of the State excluding the Frontier Ilaqas was taken in 1891 synchronously with the rest of India although it substantially fell short of the Indian standard both in respect of the statistical data and the descriptive material. The Census of 1901 was again no better as it failed to effect any appreciable improvement on its predecessor on account of scant attention which it received. The honour of being called the First Regular Census of the State was, no doubt, reserved for the 1911 Census when the operations were conducted in strict and punctilious conformity with the Imperial rules under the supervision of a whole-time lent officer who collected detailed first-hand information about the country by undertaking extensive tours.

The results of his untiring efforts and zealous labours in the cause of the State Census are embodied in the Census Report of 1911 which is one of the most comprehensive and valuable documents on the subject. This was followed by the Census of 1921 which also precisely followed the lines laid down by the Government of India Census authorities.

2. Present Census.—The present report embodies the results of the fifth ordinary Census taken on the night of the 26th February 1931, which in reality is the third regular Census of the State. The Census operations of 1931 have from start to finish synchronised with the rest of India by conforming in all its essentials to the standard instructions issued by the Census Commissioner for India for the various stages of the Census. This report accordingly forms a part of the All India Census Volumes issued under the general editorship of the Census Commissioner for India who has assigned to this volume the 24th number in his Census series. The report is divided into three parts—Part I being the main report with subsidiary and marginal tables, Part II containing the Imperial and State tables, and Part III being the final Administrative Report of the Census operations. Besides these village tables have also been printed in vernacular to give at a glance the population of each village by religions as also the number of inhabited houses. A complete account of the method and procedure followed in bringing to successful completion the various important stages of the 1931 Census will be found in the Administrative Volume (Part III) which being mainly intended for the technical guidance of the future Census Officer is not of sufficient interest or utility to the general reader of the Census Reports who at the most requires a very brief description of the various stages of the Census to enable him to understand as to how the thing is done. The following paragraphs have therefore been inserted in this introduction just to give our readers a birds-eye-view of the practical stages of the operations. If any reader is not satisfied with this brief account he would be well advised to refer to the Administrative Volume.

647 ●

3. Census Divisions and Agency.—The Census office was started on the 21st of February 1930 by Rai Bahadur Lala Tulsi Ram (formerly Finance Minister of His Highness' Government) who was designated as Officer on Special Duty and was given a Secretary in the person of Pandit Hira Nand Raina, B. Sc., LL. B., formerly Secretary to the Minister for Development.

Besides the Census the Rai Bahadur was entrusted with various other important duties viz., Private Domains' assimilation, the Investigation Committees' work and the settlement of the pending Public Works cases of the Domains. During his eight months' connection with the Census Department he also officiated for the Home and Judicial Minister for three months and the Public Works Minister for a month and a half.

Just on the eve of the commencement of House-numbering stage at the end of Asuj 1987 the Rai Bahadur reverted to his permanent service under the

6:India G-3 (1931)1933 AVI Kashmir AVI

647 Indian Government and the Census Department was placed under the control of Rai Bahadur Pandit Amrit Ram, B. A., Settlement Commissioner, and the designation of the Secretary to the Officer on Special Duty was changed into that of Assistant Census Commissioner.

659 Soon after the starting of the office a Census Regulation was enacted to arm the Census agency with necessary powers for the taking of the Census. Next came the preparation of the general village register containing the number of villages and hamlets together with the number of inhabited houses in each which was followed by the division of the entire country into fifteen Census districts each under District Census Officer which office was filled by the Wazirs Wazarat in the districts, the Municipal Presidents in cities and the Political Agent in the Political Illaqas in Gilgit. In the tahsils the operations were conducted by the Tahsildars who had under them the Charge Superintendents, Supervisors and Enumerators exercising control over their respective units—the charges, circles and blocks. A block contained upto 50 houses, a circle comprised 10 to 15 blocks and a charge included a number of circles. All these jobs were manned by voluntary workers both official and non-official—the enumerators being generally recruited from the ranks of private gentlemen, school teachers, village Lambardars, forest guards and students. The bulk of supervisors was supplied by the Patwaris while the Charge Superintendents were selected from amongst the Girdawars, Naib-Tahsildars, Forest Rangers, Inspectors of Police, Sericulture and Customs Departments. With the exception of the workers of the Political Illaqas for whose remuneration Rs. 800 were got sanctioned at the instance of the Political Agent, Gilgit, no remuneration was paid to the Census workers most of whom were, however, granted Census Certificates for meritorious services.

4. **House-numbering and Training of Census Staff.**—After the correct preparation and check of the general village registers and the delimitation of Census Divisions the next step was the numbering of houses and preparation of house lists which was completed on the 10th of November 1930. In the cities of Jammu and Srinagar as also in the town of Sopore which had a Municipality at the time of the house-numbering, permanent house-numbering was carried out by nailing to the outer door of each house black iron plates bearing white Census house-numbers. After the house-numbering, training was imparted to the Census agency to equip them for the work of preliminary enumeration. The instructions poured from the Census Commissioner to the District Census Officers whence they filtered down to the Charge Superintendents, Supervisors and from the Supervisors to the Enumerators. Census Conferences were held at all principal centres where the object of each column and the correct method of filling it were explained to the workers to elliminate errors as far as practicable.

5. **Preliminary Record.**—The preliminary enumeration work was started on the 1st of January 1930 and completed on the 1st of February 1931. In the Mufassil this work was mostly done by the Patwari-Supervisors (instead of enumerators) who in some cases wrote up the entire number of the enumeration books of their circles during the first fortnight, leaving only the record of fresh arrivals and deletion of absentees to the enumerators. The first twenty-five days of the month of February 1931 were reserved for check and correction of the preliminary record and this period was one of the greatest activity for the Census officers. The entries were scrutinized by the Supervisors and the mistakes coming to the notice of the Census authorities were circulated through inspection notes to the Census agency to enable avoidance of similar pitfalls in other districts. During this period of 1½ months the Census Commissioner toured extensively throughout the Kashmir Province while the Assistant Commissioner covered a number of tahsils of the Jammu Province to impart first-hand instruction and afford authentic interpretation of doubtful points.

6. **Actual Census.**—The final enumeration or the actual Census was taken on the night of the 26th February 1931 between 7 P. M. and 12 P. M. when the enumerators visited each house to verify the record of the preliminary enumeration. Ordinary movement was restricted by previous issue of a proclamation asking people not to fix this date for any festivals, ceremonies or weddings and stay

But with the spread of education both academic and technical the progress in trades and crafts, the general awakening and the propagation of information regarding the discoveries of fresh mineral and other resources and the ways of utilising them the conditions have and are progressively improving and with the State lead the people will not be found lacking in the necessary enthusiasm to take up to the industrial modes of life. 433

Although the conversion of the big mineral resources such as Coal, Iron, Bauxite, Copper etc., into liquid wealth which will bring in an era of prosperity and material welfare in His Highness' territories is a question of time and money, yet the following minerals can be taken up for working immediately either through private capitalists or through the department itself and thus prove a source of augmenting the income of the State in some measure and at the same time opening out new careers for youngmen in these days of trade slump and unemployment : — 135

1. Sapphires of Paddar (Kishtwar tehsil).
2. Aquamarines of Dasu (Skardu tehsil).
3. Gypsum, Ochres, Lignite and Steatite.
4. Raw materials whose working will lead to the establishment of profitable Glass and Pottery industry, Cement industry and other chemical industries.

It is needless to mention that prosperity of many advanced countries of the World—Canada, France, Great Britain, Germany etc., has been due to the scientific exploitation of their mineral wealth (especially Coal and Iron occuring in close association with each other) and there is no reason why by working on similar lines the Jammu and Kashmir State which is so rich in mineral wealth and has got both Coal and Iron occuring side by side in the Reasi tehsil where large Hydro-electric power can also be developed from the Chenab river, should not one day assume the role of a big Industrial country redounding to the mutual prosperity of both the Ruler and the ruled. May the Almighty accelerate the advent of that millenium.

25. **Forests**—*Area.*—During this decade the area under the control of the Forest Department increased from 9·393 square miles to 10·141 square miles. This was due partly to more areas having been demarcated, but more largely to taking over the forests belonging to the Bhadarwah and Langet Jagir at the time of the assimilation by the State of His Highness' Private Domains. 647 652 [185]

Organisation.—The main event during this decade was the re-organization of the department in June 1924, when the department was placed under a Chief Conservator with four Conservators for Jammu, Kashmir, Working Plans and Utilization. The number of Forest Divisions was also increased from 14 to 24.

Financial.—The expansion of the department's activities is best shown by the financial results. The following compares the results for 1977 and 1986-87 (in lacs of rupees):—

	1977.	1986-87.
Revenue ...	41·80	71·02
Expenditure ...	16·89	23·22
Surplus ...	24·91	47·80

During this decade the net income derived by the State from its forest estate nearly doubled.